

THE 4-H CLUB PROJECT

(Sometimes used as a result demonstration)

Strong Points

1. Compares favorably with the adult result demonstration as a means of furnishing local proof of the desirability of the recommended practice.
2. Adapted to introducing new enterprise.
3. Reaches farmers and farmers' wives who would otherwise be difficult to reach.
4. Stimulates community interest in extension and builds public good will.
5. Establishes early contact with future farmers and farmers' wives.
6. Develops leadership qualities in boys and girls.
7. Suggests ease of establishing practice when done successfully by large numbers of boys and girls.

Limitations

1. Influences adoption of relatively few practices by adults.
2. Requires a relatively large expenditure per farm or home practice changes.
3. Is not adapted to many kinds of subject matter.
4. Involves conditions of size, accounting procedure, cultural practices, etc. which are often unsound from the point of view of sound farm and home management.
5. Affected by many uncontrollable factors such as weather, individual and family interests.
6. Includes large numbers who fail to complete projects or whose projects are quite elementary.
7. May be many failures due to difficulty of adequately supervising large numbers of projects.

Suggestions for Improvement

1. Emphasize projects which are economically sound and are closely related to the farm and home problems of the community.
2. Maintain high standards of quality.
3. Give adequate supervision through trained local leaders.
4. Plan more difficult projects to challenge the interest of the older boys and girls.
5. Use successful results obtained by boys and girls in connection with meetings, news stories, circular letters, and radio talks.
6. Insist that definite and detailed records, including costs, be kept.
7. Increase volume as a means of contacting more farm homes and of training more young people in agriculture, home economics, and rural affairs.

Extension Service,  
U. S. Dept. Agr. 1939.



